

Oiso Guest House

The former cottage of Kenpei Kinoshita is a unique Western-style house in Oiso, built in 1912, the first year of the Taisho Era, with a breakthrough housing technology, the so-called 2x4 construction.

In 2012, Oiso town office bought the cottage located just in front of Oiso station as a symbolic landmark and starting point of the Southern Sightseeing Special Zone extending to another high-lighted Shigitatsu hermitage.

Locals are excited by the prospect of their own culture being developed further for visitors' pleasure.



Shigitatsuan (Shigitatsu Hermitage)



The priest Saigyō Hoshi (1118-1190) composed a famous Japanese poem around this area, “Even to me who lacks a delicate sense of art, the beauty of a fall evening in Shigitatsu Dale is quite evident”. After many years, the priest Sosetsu living in Odawara built this small hermitage in 1664 and named it Shigitatsuan in the memory of Saigyō. In 1695 the first master Michikaze Oyodo started to live there. This is one of Japan's three major “haiku” training halls. Shigitatsu Hermitage is thus used not only for other town cultural events and tea ceremonies.

※ “haiku”: the simplest pattern of Japanese poem